CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A method comprising:

storing data in a data oriented storage medium;

storing an operating system program in the same storage medium as the data; and

protecting the operating system program from being overwritten when data is written to the storage medium, wherein protecting the operating system program includes identifying a portion of the storage medium as bad, but using a tag to identify that the bad portion of the storage medium is good and used to store the operating system program.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the storing the data and operating system program are achieved on a NAND type flash memory device.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein protecting the operating system program is achieved by using a hidden memory block in the NAND type flash memory device to store the operating system program.

4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein protecting the operating system program includes identifying a hidden block as a bad memory block, but using a tag to identify that the bad memory block is a good block storing the operating system program.

5. (cancelled)

6. (original) A method comprising:

accessing a storage device to identify a portion of the storage area as a bad area for storing data;

determining if a specified tag identifying a presence of an operating system program is present; and

loading the operating system program stored in the portion of the storage area identified as bad if the tag is present.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein loading the operating system program loads a boot routine which is used to boot a system.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein accessing a storage device accesses an external memory device to an integrated circuit to boot the integrated circuit.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein accessing a storage device accesses a NAND type flash memory device external to an integrated circuit to boot the integrated circuit.

10. (original) A memory device comprising:

a plurality of memory blocks utilized to store data;

a hidden memory block used to store an operating system program instead of data, the hidden memory block designated as a bad block so that data will not be written into the hidden memory block; and

a tag associated with the hidden memory block to identify that the hidden memory block contains the operating system program.

11. (original) The memory device of claim 10, wherein the memory blocks, including the hidden memory block, are of NAND type flash memory.

12. (original) The memory device of claim 11, wherein the operating system program is a boot routine to boot a system.

13. (original) The memory device of claim 11, wherein the boot routine includes a boot manager and at least one other boot program.

14. (original) A multi-function handheld device comprising:

a system on a chip integrated circuit that includes an internal memory and a processor;

a data oriented memory coupled external to the integrated circuit to operate as data storage medium for the integrated circuit, the data oriented memory including a hidden area to store an operating system program which boots the integrated circuit, wherein the operating system program is stored in the hidden area which is designated as a bad block, but a tag identifies the hidden area as a good block containing the operating system program.

15. (original) The multi-function handheld device of claim 14, wherein the data oriented memory is a NAND type flash memory.

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) The~~A~~ multi-function handheld device ~~16~~14 wherein the operating system program includes a boot manager and at least one other boot program.

18. (currently amended) The~~A~~ multi function handheld device ~~16~~14 wherein the operating system program includes a boot manager, Universal Serial Bus (USB) firmware and at least one other boot program, wherein at boot up of the integrated circuit, the boot manager boots the USB firmware if a USB connection is present, otherwise the at least one other boot program is booted.